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School board welcomes *cursive writing's return*

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Learning to write cursive script has so much more to offer students than just the ability to sign legal documents later in life.

The form of handwriting was rendered optional in Ontario schools in 2006, much to the chagrin of educators and the province's teacher unions at the time. Many states south of the border and a handful of provinces dropped cursive instruction outright.

But Ontario's Ministry of Education announced before the summer break cursive writing's return as a mandatory component to elementary classroom language instruction this school year.

Grade 3 pupils will "begin to write in cursive, forming letters with appropriate formation patterns, size, placement, and spacing."

They will receive instruction until fluent. At least up to Grade 8.

Jay MacJanet, superintendent of learning responsible for the Kindergarten to Grade 8 curriculum at the Trillium Lakelands District School Board, describes in an email some of the benefits of teaching the chicken scratch means of written communication.

"It has become known that cursive writing improves the development of the brain through the activation of both hemispheres

of the brain," MacJanet said in an email. "This leads to improved thinking, language development, and working memory. "Another key aspect to cursive writing is that when whole words are written in a single unit, students are more likely to retain spelling patterns moving them into long term memory, which improves spelling overall."

Experts believe that, through cursive writing, they learn to integrate fine motor skills with visual and tactile faculties for cognitive development on a number of sensory levels.

And, a factor to the cursive smoothness or chicken scratch roughness on a page, is it's as if there's another level on which parents can get to know their children. Does the impeccable fluidity of the writing match a fastidiousness of personality? Perhaps the heavily leaned-to-the-left letters pressed hard into the page reveals another aspect of personality. MacJanet said in an email that, when it comes to "real world" situations, students will undoubtedly encounter instances in their life where they will need to "interact" with cursive writing, from reading historical documents to signing their name when applying for a driver's license. "Supporting students with the knowledge of cursive writing will not only benefit their cognitive development, it will also enrich their adult lives," MacJanet said.

Taking back the night

Laurie Jones drums in the Canadian Tire parking lot during Take Back the Night hosted by YWCA Peterborough Haliburton aimed to help end domestic violence on Thursday, Sept. 21. See more photos on page 2. /TIM YANO Special to the Times

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Showing support for survivors

Take Back the Night attendees gathered at Canadian Tire in Minden to walk around the River Walk on Thursday, Sept. 21. The yearly event raises awareness to help end domestic violence and to celebrate and support survivors. /TIM YANO Special to the Times



AH weighs options for Hawk Lake waste management

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Algonquin Highlands has some options for managing waste in the Hawk Lake area.

Options were brought to township council during its regular meeting Sept. 21. It was judged to be too early in the process for council to make a decision, though.

"This may be something that stretches over quite a period of time, depending on the direction we take," said Mayor Liz Danielsen.

Residents of the Hawk Lake area had concerns about waste management on the heels of the closure of their nearby landfill site. Council heard some of those concerns at a special meeting in December 2022 during discussion of municipal projects and priorities for 2023.

Council then requested that staff bring back options for provision of waste management services to residents of the Hawk Lake area. To that end, Cambium Inc. was brought on board to complete a review of service delivery options and provide a report to council.

The consultation portion of the project was approved in May with the associated \$18,500 and taxes to be drawn from the Hawk Lake Landfill Site Reserve purse.

Melissa Murray, the township's environmental manager, said the first option is to construction a waste material transfer station at the Hawk Lake Waste Disposal Site property.

The second possibility is something called a stationary vehicle option.

"This would be a vehicle that would travel to one location or possibly more than one

location," Murray said. "It would be parked there for designated times and people could bring materials to that vehicle and then those materials would be transferred likely to the Maple Lake (Landfill) site for proper management."

Initial cost estimates has the vehicle open to receive materials four hours on the appointed day. But Murray said that's to be determined by the community and council if that option is chosen.

Another avenue that can be taken is a business-managed arrangement. Essentially, said Murray, a local business would host containers for the collection of waste materials.

"They would manage the site and the municipality could provide assistance with transferring of materials," she said.

"So just to be clear, they (the host business) would be responsible for transferring the materials or we (the municipality) would be responsible?" Danielsen said.

"Both would be options," Murray said.

The fourth proposal is to go with a community-based sites that could be managed by cottage associations and the like. Residents would bring their waste there.

"That would be a small drop-off site," Murray said. "It wouldn't necessarily be staffed on a regular basis."

The final possibility is to maintain the status quo in the Hawk Lake area, which is a group of people with a former landfill.

"When you say that the community-based group would have to manage it (waste), my concern about an option like that is poor handling of materials," Danielsen said.

Specifically, the mayor was concerned about some people's attitudes toward recycling opportunities.

clinging opportunities.

Councillor Lisa Barry shared that worry. She asked if the bins in a business- or community-hosted site would have both household waste and recyclable fibre materials.

"My big concern is that, by losing the management of this, there will inevitably less recycling that happens," Barry said. "You start throwing your batteries in your garbage."

"I think any option relies on good public education and good community engagement with our waste diversion programs," Murray said and added that specific material diversion rates would need to be evaluated over

time.

Deputy Mayor Jennifer Dailloux asked if elsewhere in Ontario there are cottage community members who have agreed to monitor a waste site in their spare time.

"It strikes me that this might work really, really well for a high north community," Dailloux said.

"There are community groups who do this on a different sort of level ... and that would be part of a curbside collection program," Murray said, and added that the working details for that setup would be up to the community group.



Fall harvest

A combine off-loads freshly cut grain into a Cox farm truck on Bobcaygeon Road. /Submitted by Guenter Horst

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VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipality Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

September 28- Regular Council Meeting

October 12- Regular Council Meeting

October 26- Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or a live-stream link available on the Township CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

Winter Hours start October 1

A reminder that winter hours come into effect October 1 until April 30 at all Waste Disposal Sites. Please refer to your Waste Disposal Card or visit mindenhills.ca for full details on operating hours.

CULTURAL CENTRE

Shifting Lens, a group exhibit featuring 15 artists from the Eastern Hub of the Ontario Society of Artists, will be on display until November 25, 2023, in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Admission is by donation. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@minden hills.ca

The Minden Hills Museum & Heritage Village and Nature's Place is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm until Saturday, October 7. This week features hands-on activities taking place Tuesday to Friday from 3-4 pm. Visit us on Saturday for Move & Groove at 11 am and Autumn Crafts at 2 pm. The Heritage Village is also open for self-guided tours. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@minden hills.ca

To recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library – Minden Branch are co-hosting a community screening of "We Were Children" (2012) on Thursday, September 28 at 5 pm. The film reveals the trauma and impact cause by the residential school system and is suitable for those 16 years of age and older. The Cultural Centre will also be sharing relevant information and resources on September 29 and 30. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@minden hills.ca

OFFICE CLOSURE

Administration Offices and services will be CLOSED on Monday, October 2, 2023, for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, as well as Monday, October 9, 2023, for Thanksgiving.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MESSAGE SAVED BY THE BEEP 2023

Installing, Testing & Maintaining Smoke Alarms:

There are many types of smoke alarms. Smoke alarms can be hard wired, battery operated, or both. When replacing a smoke alarm, you must replace it with the same type that was there.

Because smoke rises, ceilings are the best location to mount your smoke alarms. Avoid placing alarms near bathrooms, heating appliances, windows, and ceiling fans. Always follow manufacturer's instructions when installing smoke alarms.

- Test smoke alarms at least every month by pressing the test button and listening for the three-beep alarm.
- Replace smoke alarm batteries at least once a year, and whenever the low-battery warning chirps.
- Smoke alarms don't last forever. Replace smoke alarms according to manufacturer's instructions, usually every 10 years.

What To Do In Case The Smoke Alarm Sounds:

- If your smoke alarm detects smoke, it will sound a loud, three-beep alarm pattern.
- In the event of a fire, you may have less than 60 seconds to safely escape the danger. It's important to talk with all family members and guests about a home fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.
- If a fire occurs in your home, follow your personal home fire escape plan. Remember to GET OUT, STAY OUT, and CALL 911. Never go back inside a burning home for anything or anyone.

How To Participate:

Snap a photo of you or family members testing your smoke alarms and post it to social media using the hashtag #SavedByTheBeep#MindenHills.

The Minden Hills Fire Department urges all residents to participate in Ontario's first "Test Your Smoke Alarm Day" on September 28, 2023.

Please test your smoke alarms to protect yourself and your loved ones, and make sure they can truly be "Saved By The Beep"!

For more information on smoke alarm safety, please visit www.savedbythebeep.ca.

Protest lacked dialogue, says Pride chair

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Editor

On Sept. 20, a protest was scheduled for Head Lake Park titled the 1 Million March 4 Children.

The idea behind the march was to fight against the current public school curriculum, which teaches diversity, inclusion, and 2SLGBTQIA+ areas of interest. According to the nationwide website, participants were adamant about “advocating for the elimination of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) curriculum, pronouns, gender ideology and mixed bathrooms in schools.”

The march was scheduled to occur in communities around the country, but when word got out about the transphobic undertones of the protest, people started standing up. “It’s a rhetoric I didn’t think we’d ever have to experience here in Canada,” said Minden Pride chair Allan Guinan, “we had people in tears. If this is removed from the curriculum, what does that say to the queer community? You’re saying we don’t exist. And that’s very offensive to those of us trying to make a difference in the community.”

While counter protests sprouted up across the country, Haliburton County jumped onboard. In less than 48 hours, the movement gained momentum across various online platforms, resulting in well over 100 attending the day of; more than the number of attendees at the originally scheduled protest.

“We had established ahead of time with the protestors that this would be a peaceful protest,” shared Guinan, “but what was missing was an opportunity for any dialogue, and really, we all wanted the same thing.”

Guinan was referencing the desire for education, safety, and protection of children and youth. “But one group is doing that by withholding information, and the other is being open and educating people,” he said.

While some protestors marched strictly for the change in the curriculum, Guinan noted that there were others that seemed to have a more transparent agenda. “There was much more blatant homophobia seen than what we were expecting,” he said, “and we noticed that by what was written on some of the signs.”

The silver lining to the emotionally charged day was the support seen in the form of the counter protest. “In the eight years that Minden Pride has been around in the Haliburton Highlands, we now see we have an audience. A base of people that believe in the same values we are supporting,” he said. “So together, we can find solutions and opportunities to help wherever we can.”



Nearly 100 supporters of Minden Pride gather for the counter protest in Head Lake Park in Haliburton on Wednesday, Sept. 20. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Tensions were high in Haliburton as 1 Million March 4 Children protestors walked along Head Lake toward the public schools with counter-protestors lining both sides of the walkway on Wednesday, Sept. 20.



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AH buys scales for Maple Lake dump

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Maple Lake landfill could have vehicle weigh scales by the beginning of December.

Algonquin Highlands council awarded during its Sept. 21 meeting the contract for the supply and installation of a steel deck scale with analog load cells to Rose Scale for \$128,100 plus taxes.

Melissa Murray, the township’s environmental manager, said there were two respondents to a request for proposals for the project.

She said the coin for the scale’s installation was included in the 2023 budget for the Maple Lake Waste Disposal Site. Modernization funding in the amount of \$100,000 was provided, with the additional \$28,100, plus applicable taxes, included in the capital budget for the Maple Lake site.

According to a report to council, a vehicle weigh scale at the site Operations Centre will contribute to maintaining infrastructure stability and to continued development toward active and robust environmental and sustainability plans for

the township.

The vehicle weigh scale was budgeted as part of the Maple Lake Operations Centre project. The RFP was issued Aug. 18. The request was for four scale options for comparative purposes for council.

For instance, steel versus concrete decking to hold vehicles at the scale, and hydraulic compared to analog load cells were considered.

“We had asked for pricing on that (load cell) option just to see how great it would be,” Murray said. “It was significant and, given the amount of traffic that we have and the weight of our loads, the benefits wouldn’t justify that difference in cost.”

Pricing, as well as site conditions, traffic type, typical loads, experience of other waste disposal sites, recommendations from service professionals, and service requirements were factored into the decision process.

Staff recommended installation of a scale with analog load cells.

As the range in pricing for a steel deck versus a concrete deck was not consistent between the two proposals, and both options were viable, both steel and concrete deck options were scored.

The Movie Man comes home to Kinmount's Highlands Cinemas

by ADAM FRISK
Special to the Times

The highly anticipated documentary *The Movie Man* made its way home to Kinmount's Highlands Cinemas on Saturday with two private screenings of the film.

Hosted in what arguably is the most unusual movie theatre in North America, perhaps the world, *The Movie Man* premiered in front of two sold out shows, telling the story of Keith Stata, the man behind the movies.

Filmmaker Matt Finlin spent nearly five years working on the project, telling the story of how Stata built the wacky movie theatre and his effort to keep it alive.

"It started when my aunt brought me here when I was 11 years old, we were camping up here with my family," Finlin said Saturday following the screening. "Then I came on a weekend to make a short piece, I hadn't been here in many years... and after I got back I thought 'Think there might be something here,' then it's five years later we've got this."

The film, in part, focused on the struggle for Stata brought on by COVID, with the pandemic acting like the villain in a horror movie.

"It was a challenge, COVID wasn't a gift to most of us but it was a gift to the film because it provided real stakes, is this theatre going to survive? Is Keith going to be able to reopen," Finlin said. "When we were able to come back and safely film again, and catch up, it became how do we build this tension in the stakes to see if it'll actually open."

Lending a hand as executive producer of the film was Ed Robertson of the Barenaked Ladies, who had been coming to the theatre for over 30 years.

"I first started coming when I was about 17 years old and cottaging in the Minden area," Robertson said Saturday. "I don't think I've missed a summer, coming multiple times as my kids grew."

Robertson said he met Finlin through a mutual friend and learned the filmmaker was making a documentary on Highland Cinema and immediately jumped at the opportunity to help with the project.



Keith Stata shares a laugh before the screening of the *Movie Man* at Highlands Cinemas on Saturday, Sept. 23. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Times

"This is just such, everyone knows who has ever been here, this is such a special, unique, incredible place," Robertson said. "[Keith], you've made the lives of everyone who has ever been here richer and there's very few people that can say that."

"You created something unique, you created something beautiful and you celebrated the thing you love and we are all so grateful," the singer said.

As for the movie man himself, Stata was pleased to see how it all came together.

"I said to Matt the other day, the thing that's strange about

this is that when I built the theatre I didn't envision seeing myself on the screen," Stata said. "I wanted [Matt] to do what they did for Harrison Ford and make me look 40 years younger."

"But unfortunately the poster made me look like one of those guys on Mount Rushmore," Stata quipped.

As for what's next for *The Movie Man*, Finlin revealed the film was picked by Toronto-based Mongrel Media and will be distributed across the country for all movie fans to see.

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With bells on

IDON'T USUALLY struggle with words.

Usually, they come fairly easy to me. I feel lucky in that sense.

But this week, I hit a wall. It was a unique challenge I was trying to comprehend; I had both too many words, and no words at all.

It started with the protest in Haliburton on Sept. 20. It was a nation-wide march, which joined together under the guise of caring about children. The irony of the matter was that these individuals paraded around town with their Maple Leaves while suffocating the rights of the children growing up in our community. Bullies with their bells on.

But that's just my opinion.

Mine and over a hundred other counter-protestors who lined the paths of Head Lake Park in an attempt to offer solidarity to those who were targeted by the bullies. The counter protest was formed less than 48 hours before the event; and still had both in-person and online support from across the community.

And as I watched these "protestors" wave signs about "science" and "education", I listened as the counter-protestors were chanting the same things.

Because the crux of the issue is awareness. The "protestors" believe that the school systems are corrupting their kids when educating them about trans rights, 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and honouring children living their authentic and true selves.

On the flip side, the counter-protestors believe that education is a basic human right, learning about all walks of life is crucial, and celebrating similarities and differences is the path towards

acceptance.

Both sides were pushing the need for education. But one side slaps your wrist if you colour outside the lines, while the other takes your hand and holds it; through the good and the bad, the questions and the doubt, the complexities and the colours.

I'm not going to tell you which side is right for your child. You can decide.

Children are the future. They are the ones who will care for us as we age, who will assume the burden of our deteriorating climate, who will pave the way for civilization as we know it.

And the irony of this protest hinging on "protecting children"

when the core of the whole movement is to tell kids they can't learn, squash the dreams they may have, and tell them they can't be who they really are? Well, that just seems counterintuitive.

Right before I arrived at the protest, I had come from an

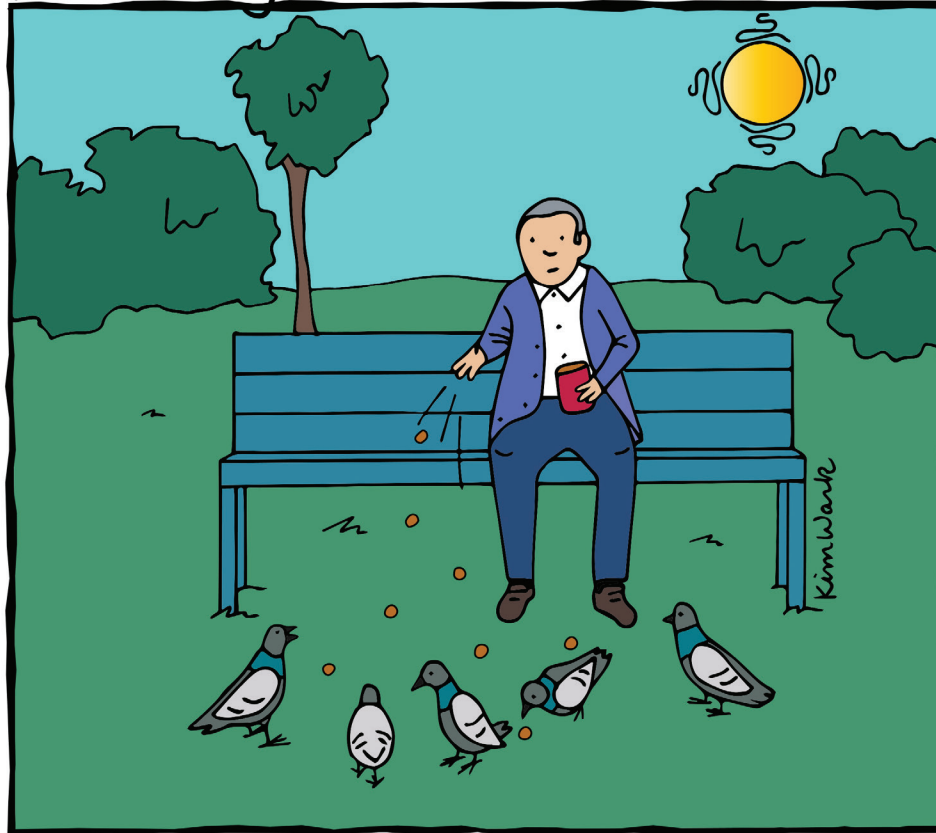
appointment. I had just heard the five month heartbeat of the little human I am growing. And as I watched the bullies and the counter-protestors chant back and forth, I held my stomach, and felt a little wiggle.

Because protecting our children isn't about who can yell the loudest. It's about who shows up, who includes them, who listens to them, and who loves them - no matter who they become, who they grow into, and who they love.

And while it's heartbreaking to know my child will be born into a world where there will be people who will slap his wrist for colouring outside the lines, I know there will be others there, just to hold his hand, and celebrate him for exactly who he is. Every step of the way. With bells on.

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Editor

Kwarky

*"Pennies? They're worth less than breadcrumbs."*

Dogless days

"DON'T LOOK at me like that," I said. "It's not like I am leaving you forever."

Lord knows she tried to keep a positive demeanour, but the truth of it is all I could see was the hurt in her eyes when I said I was leaving for a few days of hunting.

"I'd really love to take you with me," I said, quite truthfully. "But where I am going is no place for a girl as beautiful, polite, and civil as you."

It was true. I was going to duck camp. Nonetheless, Rosie, my hard-charging springer spaniel, continued to stare me down and then sigh. I guess heartbroken would be the best way to describe her demeanour. And mine too.

We both knew it was a good place for her in many ways. After all, it was a place where we could hunt, and she could hone her waterfowling skills. The only issue was that my 86-year-old uncle was coming to camp, and I figured Rosie's high energy levels might be a bit much for him. So, I decided to leave my best friend and hunting dog behind.

"You have no idea how much I am going to miss you," I said.

Just then, Jenn walked in and said, "Are you talking to me?"

"Uh ... sure," I replied. "Yes, definitely."

I swear to God, Rosie rolled her eyes.

"That's sweet. I'll miss you too," Jenn said. But her body language - I think it was the animated skipping - hinted otherwise.

I patted Rosie on top of her head and said, "Look, the hunting season is just

beginning. We will have many more opportunities. I'm only going to be gone for five days. After that, you and I are going to have our best season ever."

But in my heart of hearts, I knew she did the math and determined that this was 35 days in dog time.

So I picked up my shotgun and waders and loaded them in the car while Rosie walked sadly beside me. Then I loaded up my gear, sleeping bag, and ammunition. And with every trip to the vehicle, it got a little sadder.

Soon, big brown eyes started to well up and tear. And I think Rosie's did too.

"I promised myself I was not going to cry," I said.

Jenn chose that moment to walk in again. Then she said, "It's OK. Rosie and I will be alright. I might even take her to the dog groomers and get her hair clipped and maybe even get a cute bow in her hair. Oh, and have her nails done ..."

"I'm taking her with me!" I yelled. "She's coming with me!"

"But I thought your uncle ..."

Sadly, Jenn was right again - and I told her so. Rosie, who was definitely aloof by now, just went to her crate and lay down.

When I got to camp, my cousin Dan was sad too. For he had also left his dog behind.

"I wouldn't feel so bad, except for the fact that Sandra's threatening to take her to the spa and get her hair and nails done. She was even talking about getting her a ribbon."

"It's only 5 days," I said.

But we both knew the dogs were right. It kind of felt like 35.

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

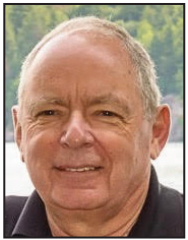
Time to get thinner

THE FARMERS' Almanac is forecasting heavier than usual snow-falls for the Great Lakes region this coming winter. That's good news, in a perverse way. More snow means more shovelling and more shovelling means more calories burned.

Canadians definitely need to burn more calories. The World Obesity Federation says that almost one-third of Canadians are obese. It ranks Canada as the world's 20th most obese country.

Obesity has increased significantly throughout the world, almost tripling since 1975. In Canada, obesity rose from 22.2 per cent of the population in 2005 to 27.2 per cent in 2018. Now it is 30.47 per cent of Canadians.

Even more startling, the federation predicts that 51 per cent of the world – roughly four billion people – will be overweight or obese within the next 12 years.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

Too many people assume that obesity is the result of people eating too much and exercising too little. Scientific studies show however that genetics play a part in obesity. People born with certain genes are more likely to become obese than others.

Other research has shown that healthy weight can be maintained no matter what a person's genetic background. Roughly 20 to 30 per cent of a person's weight is determined by environmental factors, so closely watching what we eat and drink and getting enough exercise is important.

Many health experts consider obesity an epidemic that is expected to overtake smoking as the main cause of preventable deaths in Canada. Obesity now is a leading cause of Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, arthritis and other health problems.

Obesity Canada, a charity working to reduce obesity, estimates that one in 10 premature deaths among Canadian adults ages 20 to 64 are directly attributable to obesity.

The fundamental cause of obesity is an energy imbalance between calories consumed and calories expended. We eat too many foods high in fats and sugars and spend not enough time exercising.

Surveys show that 22 per cent of our diets, and 25 per cent of teenager diets, consist of fast foods, condiments and sugary beverages.

We don't eat the recommended amount of fruit and vegetables. The federal government says we need to eat more of those, more protein and whole grain foods and make water the drink of choice.

Also, many jobs these days require less physical activity, and most people get to work by car or public transport.

Even at home we are consuming less energy. We spend more time watching television and more equipment like vacuum cleaners and lawn mowers, which used to be physically pushed, now are remote controlled.

Almost 53 per cent of Canadians believe they are physically active when in fact research shows that only 15 per cent meet national guidelines for activity.

Obesity in young people is a serious problem. Only seven per cent of them are believed to be getting even moderate levels of physical activity. And, of course, young people are fast food consumers who spend much time watching a screen of some sort.

The costs of obesity are huge. The World Obesity Federation says the economic impact of overweight and obesity on the world is set to reach \$4.32 trillion annually by 2035. That equals three per cent of global gross domestic product, comparable with the impact of COVID-19 in 2020.

The direct cost of obesity in Canada has been estimated at between \$5 and \$7 billion a year. That includes physician, medication and hospitalization costs. But these are older figures and the current direct costs are likely in the double-digit billions.

Whatever the exact cost, it is huge and direct strain on the Canadian economy. It's an issue that has caught the attention of some of us individually. We talk a lot about the need to lose weight, eat less and exercise more.

But it is not an important issue with the general Canadian public.

Oddly enough we lament news clips and advertisements about underweight adults and children around world the suffering from not enough to eat.

The world's poorly fed, underweight children have been a serious concern for decades. They remain a problem, however, experts say that obesity now is a larger cause of preventable deaths than underweight.

letters to the editor

Minden Pride - no space for hate

To the Editor,

On behalf of Minden Pride, thank you to everyone who joined our peaceful counter-protest against the 1 Million March 4 Children on Sept. 20. In under 24 hours, we assembled a large and spirited group of supporters to counter the anti-LGBTQ demonstrators.

The protestors' stated goal is to eliminate Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) curriculum in schools, inclusive approaches to pronouns, gender ideology and mixed bathrooms in our schools across Canada.

The protestors claim SOGI leads to the sexualization of children. Under the guise of 'parental rights', they further claim to be protecting children's innocence, and that they harbour no anti-LGBTQ sentiment.

Really? Organized messaging from their group spoke of a very different agenda. Hateful signage using language such as "grooming" and "indoctrination" proved otherwise. A protestor identified us as "pedophiles" and stated we will "burn in hell" for our 'lifestyle'. Their invoking of "family values" insults our entire

community, as though we do not have families or carry positive values.

The protestors argue teaching kids about "queer ideology" will sexualize young children.

Being gay, bisexual, transgender or anywhere on the gender and sexuality spectrum is not an ideology. 'Indoctrination' is not reality. To be queer is simply a biological fact.

Eliminating SOGI would leave all students, straight and queer, with no education in sexual and gender diversity nor build on principles of an inclusive society. We believe this to be highly discriminating and especially dangerous to those youth in our community who may be struggling with their own sexual or gender identity.

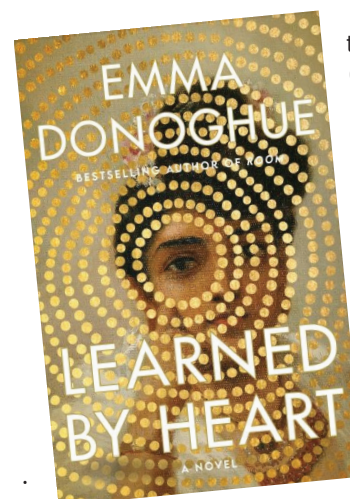
For the past eight years Minden Pride has proudly stood for a kinder, inclusive community. This demonstration has galvanized our resolve even further. There is no place for oppression and hate in our county. We will continue to fight to protect the rights of everyone to live an open and safe life in the Haliburton Highlands.

**Allan Guinan,
Minden**



A foggy morning overlooking a farmer's field in Minden. /Submitted by Guenter Horst

HCPL's Book of the Week



In 1805, fourteen-year-old Eliza Raine is a school girl at the Manor School for Young Ladies in York. The daughter of an Indian mother and a British father, Eliza was banished to this unfamiliar country as a little girl. When she first stepped off the King George in Kent, Eliza was accompanied by her older sister, Jane, but now she boards alone at the Manor, with no one left to claim her. She spends her days avoiding the attention of her fellow pupils until, one day, a fearless and charismatic new student arrives at the school. The two girls are immediately thrown together and soon Eliza's life is turned inside out by this strange and curious young woman.

Drawing on years of investigation and Anne Lister's five-million-word secret journal, *Learned by Heart* by Emma Donoghue is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

The return of Razzamataz

by EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the future of many things was unknown. In our community, the component that was often in question, was whether or not theatre would continue.

While there is a fairly established theatrical crowd, Razzamataz Kids Shows faced some uncertainty. Namely because their audience was shifting, and growing older.

Razz has been around for decades in the community, providing high quality, affordable theatre experiences for all ages. While the committee took a hiatus during the COVID years, they were able to jump in with two feet as soon as the green light was granted. “Post-COVID our team grew from four to 11 people,” said Nicole Stewart, the chair of the committee, “While some of our members have changed, our goal remains the same - to give children an memorable, meaningful theatre experience, close to home.”

Last year, the committee set out with this goal in mind. They also challenged themselves to fill the theatre, and as their reputation grew around the community over the year, so did their audience sizes.

This has given the committee the energy they needed to dedicate themselves to another full season ahead. “This year differs from other years since we are offering more shows this year than ever before,” said Stewart, noting that the first show kicks off on Sunday, Oct. 1 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton.

Their season debut will be Th’owaxya, a Kwantlen First Nations tale about an old



Th’owaxya is the first of five productions in the Razzamataz 2023/2024 lineup, kicking off the season with a beloved First Nations tale that will charm children of all ages. /Photo submitted

hungry spirit who inhabits a feast dish. When a little mouse is caught stealing from the dish, he must appease the Ogress ... or else.

Th’owaxya is the first of five productions in the 2023/2024 lineup. “The season includes an Indigenous tale, colourful puppets, clowns and bass instruments, a magic show, and an Indigenous dance from the BC

Northwest Coast,” said Stewart. “We will also be offering a marionette puppet workshop in November and a brass instrument workshop in February.”

Each show promises to be interactive and engaging, and allows families a unique theatrical opportunity to introduce their children to the magic of live performances, right here

in Haliburton County.

Razzamataz is a registered not for profit, and the committee is run entirely by volunteers. For more information on what Razz has to offer, or to purchase tickets for upcoming shows, visit www.razzamataz.ca.

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Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Contract Bridge
When: Every Tuesday, 9am - 12pm
Where: Minden United Church basement, 21 Newcastle Street
Our weekly contract bridge has resumed and it's hoped that many of those who played before Covid will come back, along with new members. All levels of skill welcomed.

Make a Fabric Bowl Holder
When: Sept. 27 5 to 7:30 p.m.
Where: SIRCH Bistro, 49 Maple Ave., Haliburton
Participants will need to bring: \$5, a working sewing machine, fall coloured fabrics (at least two) if they have any, otherwise fabrics will be provided, and sewing kit supplies (thread, scissors). Participants should have basic sewing skills. Email fawcettffibre@gmail.com for more info or to sign up for this DIY event!

Facilitation Skills- Free H.O.P.E. Course
When: Sept. 29 10 a.m. to noon
Where: SIRCH Bistro, 49 Maple Ave., Haliburton
This course will provide the basics of facilitating groups and provide experience with public speaking. Email hopefc@cmhahkpr.ca to sign up or to learn more.

Live Music: Jodi Timgren and Dan O'Neil
When: Sept. 30, noon to 2 p.m.
Where: SIRCH Bistro, 49 Maple Ave., Haliburton
Local Musicians Jodi Timgren and Dan O'Neil will be gracing us with their beautifully sung and well-played compositions! Enjoy soup, light lunch options and baked goods available for purchase. No purchase necessary to come out and enjoy.

Quilts & More Craft Sale - Stanhope
When: Saturday, Sept. 30, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Stanhope Firefighters Hall, 1095 North Shore Rd., Algonquin Highlands
Plus a Luncheon (sandwiches & goodies)
Living & Dying Well Gatherings
When: Wednesday, Oct. 4, 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Where: Abbey Retreat Centre (in person at the abbey retreat centre) RSVP to: info@abbeyretreatcentre.ca
We'll hear from a Funeral Director, Death Doula, Lawyer and Medical professional. We'll touch on these topics and more: Wills, DNR's, banking details. Palliative Care, Hospice. Funerals, Memorial Services and Death Plans and Rituals. Body, Mind and Soul Wellness Resources.

Minden Legion Branch 636
Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m. Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Every other Friday Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.



Taking a hike

Seventeen hikers begin the trek to the Fire Tower on Hike Haliburton's Appreciating the Beauty of the Frost Centre on Friday, Sept. 22 in Algonquin Highlands for a 7.2 kilometre loop. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*



Patrick Saini, #75, faces off during a puck drop at Saturday's game at SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena against the Aurora Tigers. /TIM YANO Special to the Times



Huskies bring unbeaten streak to five straight

Sudoku brought to you by



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Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 12

by ALEX GALLACHER
Special to the Times

The Haliburton County Huskies ended week three of the OJHL season with a win and a draw to bring their unbeaten streak to five consecutive games. Taking on the Stouffville Spirit and the Aurora Tigers, the Huskies were riding a wave of momentum following their stunning win against the JRC in week two.

Stifling the Spirit

Thursday saw the Huskies venture out to Stouffville to take on former Husky Cam Kosurko. Despite losing to the Spirit in pre-season action, the Huskies were determined to change their fate in their first regular season meeting of the year. Jack Staniland opened the scoring on the powerplay in the first, tipping in a shot from Ian Phillips. With score standing at 1-0 to end the first, the Huskies saw an offensive explosion in the second. Declan Bowmaster added another powerplay goal to the tally, using a beautiful move to beat out Matteo Gennaro. Seven minutes later, Gavin McGahey-Smith added his first career OJHL goal. His goal ignited the Sprit bench in chirps, as McGahey-Smith had been the person who drew the penalties which led to the Sprits struggles. 3-0 after two the Huskies wanted to close out the game with a few more goals. Johnathon Mead and Ian Phillips added goals of their own to bring the score to 5-0 with one minute to go. However, Vlad Visan's first career shutout would have to wait another day as Riley Pope would score with 44 seconds left to make the final

score 5-1 Huskies. Visan went 24 for 25 to bring the Huskies win streak to four in a row.

The troubling Tigers

Heading into the Saturday game against the Aurora Tigers, the Huskies had much momentum and looked for a fifth straight win. Ty Petrou scored his first as a Husky at 1:32 of the first period, commanding the lead from the start of the game. With the first ending at 1-0, the second saw the Huskies momentum crack. Patrick Saini made the score 2-0 for the Huskies, burying a beautiful between the legs move. However, the Tigers added two of their own late in the second to tie the score at 2. Staniland gave Huskies fans some hope as he would restore the lead at 18:20 of the second. All the Huskies needed to do was hold on and they would see victory for a fifth straight time. Ryan Evenhuis begged to differ, as he would bury an early third period goal to tie to game at 3 and send it to overtime. The first OT solved nothing, but the second OT saw the best chance for the Huskies. Bowmaster came in on an odd man rush, and buried what he thought was the game winner. Tragically, with a ping of the cross bar the ref yelled "Play on!" and the Huskies and Tigers finished this one out in a draw.

The Haliburton County Huskies will be heading to Buffalo this week for the OJHL Governors Showcase. They will take on the JRC and the Oakville Blades at the LECOM Harborcentre, before heading back to Minden on Sept. 30 to play the Cobourg Cougars at 4 p.m.

GET IT
online
www.mindentimes.ca



Above, the team celebrates the Huskies first goal of the game by #94 Ty Petrou.

Left, the Huskies celebrate #75 Patrick Saini's goal, the second of the night.

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Haliburton Highlands Health Services Now Seeking Members for Community Advisory Committee

Haliburton Highlands Health Services is seeking community-minded individuals interested in serving on a 12-member Community Advisory Committee, responsible for providing advice and insight to its Board of Directors on the delivery and future planning of community services in Haliburton County. The Advisory Committee will also provide linkages to the community on trends and issues related to the community services.

Key functions of the Community Advisory Committee will include providing advice on:

- Needs of community services clients
- The unique and diverse needs of the Haliburton community
- Further opportunities for partnership and collaboration
- Best approaches for communicating with the community
- Feedback on the delivery of community services and future planning for services

The Committee generally meets on Thursday mornings 3 times per year (Nov 30, 2023, Feb 29, 2024 and May 9, 2024). In addition, work groups may meet at other times convenient to the individual members.

If you feel you have the time, energy and commitment to be a member of this year's Community Advisory Committee, then we would like to hear from you by **October 6, 2023**.

For further information and an application package, please contact: Michel Henry via email at mhenry@hhhs.ca OR phone Michel at (705) 457-1392 Extension 2248.

HHHS Foundation AGM highlights 2022 year

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Editor

The change in season brings on the yearly Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation AGM. The numbers in review were from 2022, with 2023 numbers still not completed until the end of the fiscal year.

“It has been an interesting year, to say the least,” said HHHSF chair Eric Recalla, referencing that 2022 was really the first year that mirrored some sense of normalcy after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting started with an annual auditors report, during which time Ali Ahmed presented the financial statements, and noted that there were “no significant items in the balance sheet.”

The meeting then shifted over to Melanie Klodt Wong, the executive director of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, who provided an overview of the 2022/2023 year.

“The pandemic has had a major effect on giving,” said Klodt Wong, “but some of the donors are giving because they received amazing care [from HHHS].”

At this time, there are 1934 active donors, with the average revenue per donor landing at \$509. She noted that the retained donors had taken a dip at -27 per cent, but the 437 new donors have provided \$290,000 in revenue over the past year.

Out of that amount, the Foundation has transferred \$284,279 towards capital equipment at HHHS, \$50,000 towards community support services subsidies, and \$12,506 to education assistance programs. Klodt Wong noted that they are seeing an increase in the latter program for the 2023/2024 season already: “people want to stay in this community based on the education they are receiving here,” she

said.

Beyond the private donors, Klodt Wong also shared the successes of the fundraisers offered through the Foundation over the 2022 year; including the Matt Duchene Charity Golf Classic and the Health Radiothon, which took a dent out of the \$100,000 price tag for the Smart IV Pumps needed at the hospitals.

The agenda then shifted gears to introduce Veronica Nelson, HHHS interim president and CEO, who provided a short recap on the 2022 year prior to her arrival on the scene, and moved forward with the roll out of a five year strategic plan for moving forward.

Nelson opened by acknowledging the hard work of the team. “Our staff goes above and beyond every day,” she said, noting that they would not be able to do what they do without them.

The 2022/2023 strategic priorities were driven by the notion of being leaders in innovative rural health care, with the main pillars revolving around advancing partnerships, building their capacity to thrive, and transforming the health services experiences, all while under the umbrella of investing in the people; staff, residents, and partners.

In terms of advancing partnerships, in 2022, HHHS integrated a technology called “Ocean” into their services, which is an electronic referral program to the seven Central East hospitals’ clinics and services. They also introduced a technology where patients can have access to their own records through an app, but at the time of the presentation, only five per cent of patients were utilizing the service. Nelson hopes to increase that number through marketing the program effectively.

She noted that this past year, they added accessible automatic doors at the Haliburton site, and intend to add accessible features and doors to the Minden site this coming year.

Nelson provided a breakdown of the hospital visits from

2022/early 2023, which included 14,288 to the Minden site, 10,413 to the Haliburton site, 4549 Haliburton inpatient days, and 435 Haliburton hospital discharges. “We can see that a lot of patients stay a long time at the inpatient beds,” she noted. These numbers are from the 2022 year, and prior to the Minden emergency department closure in June of 2023.

The acting president and CAO gave a nod towards the upcoming strategic plan, which will be in place from 2023 to 2028, and is in the process of a “soft launch” before it is added to the HHHS website. While the purposes and values of the previous plan will stay in place; namely the optimization of health and wellbeing in Haliburton County and the continual mandates of compassion, accountability, integrity, and respect, Nelson plans on adding some new components to the plan moving forward.

These directions include making HHHS recognized as a great place to work, understanding and securing future resources, nurturing a supportive and inclusive environment for the team to thrive, and fostering partnerships to provide more seamless and integrated care.

The overview of the 2023/2024 year will be shared at next year’s AGM.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com

When social media blocks your access to the news, turn to your local newspaper.

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

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May I finish, please?

ONE OF the things that I found most constraining about COVID was that I had to reconsider my meeting manners. Zoom outed me as rude when I interrupted, which I do. A lot, I discovered. So I learned (more or less) how to just nod enthusiastically or wave my hands around when I wanted to comment on what someone was saying, while or shortly after they were saying it, rather than expostulating which caused the green frame around my image to light up and people to scowl at my unseemly interruption.

I very much hated the lock-step, slo-mo, no meat on the bone tone discourse that Zoom encouraged, maybe required. It made me itch. Or want to take up crocheting to be productive while the conversation inched along. In meetings with people I knew well, I missed the broth in which the soup floated, the multi-sensory inputs that melded and seasoned the words. In meetings with people I did not know well, I made up back stories with meagre – and perhaps false -- hints from their carefully curated backgrounds. What message were those books intended to convey? That art? Real flowers? When

people used the phony photo backgrounds, I enjoyed imagining the thought process that led to the choice – or, recently, figuring out whether the older guy really did have a Mohawk hairdo or was it the shadow thing happening. (And shadow of what? That took me off agenda for quite a while.)

I was pleased, therefore, to read an article about the art of conversation as evidence that I was not the only person thinking about what medium does to message, Zoom style, but also to learn more about how the academics think about and describe the elements of discourse.

What drew my attention was the focus on interrupting (Mind if I cut in? Sheila Das, Toronto Star Opinion, Aug 12/23), which, as I've said, is one of my favourite sins. She acknowledges that women have a history of being talked over and mansplained (what I think she's saying is when men say what we've just said because it didn't pass muster on its own). But I think she may have missed the height of the era of women being encouraged to mind their manners by not invading the time and prominence that rightfully belonged to the men around the table. Women were cre-



FAY MARTIN
Poke, Peel, Pair, Ponder

ated to take minutes and serve coffee.

That has changed. A bit. I regret I have never mastered the art that I admire in my younger colleagues of saying 'May I finish, please?' and making it stick. Of then proceeding without totally losing stream of thought and sputtering to an inelegant ending. Of commanding the air waves comfortably enough, as Das says, to enjoy the 'real pleasure [of] fully articulating your thought, slowly musing over your words, like a shopper enjoying the process of carefully choosing the perfect tomato at a farmers' market.'

I have noticed that men don't usually ask permission to finish their thought, they just do it. I was married to a man who had developed the bureaucratic penchant for metering the cadence and measuring the inhalations so that he was un-interruptible. When he was utilizing this skill (which, to prevent domestic homicide, he learned more or less to hang up with his jacket when he arrived home), there was never an appropriate time to break into the flow of discourse.

Maybe that's why I leaned into learning the art of interruption -- the many-faceted art, which includes body language, sotto

voce commentary, hypothesizing (and sometimes asking) why attention wandered and, under extreme conditions, sending notes. Das embraces this interaction as essential to exciting conversation, but warns it works only in the context of relationship and uncompetitive or nonjudgemental environments. It's called 'cooperative overlapping', and when well done, this kind of conversation has a joyful, ludic quality. (I didn't know this word either: it means 'showing spontaneous and undirected playfulness'.)

Well, not quite. Das also shares that academics have discovered two approaches to conversation that, if not properly appreciated and respected, may cause friction. Low-intensity and high-intensity. I'm definitely high-intensity. Which is why I feel in many environments like an ebullient puppy who needs to go to training school. And why I use writing to figure out what I think. And why I interrupt. And why, try as I might to appreciate and respect, I'll likely go to my grave being an unmannerly interrupter.

ATV thefts in Minden Hills

Members of the Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating reports of two stolen ATVs in the last week in the Township of Minden Hills.

Between 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 15, and 1 p.m. on Sept. 16, an ATV was stolen from a residence on Stouffer Street. The vehicle is described as a red 2007 Honda ATV bearing Ontario license plate 65PL3.

On Sept. 18, overnight, an ATV was stolen from a residence on West Road. The vehicle is described as a red 2022 Honda ATV bearing Ontario license plate 4XR71.

To prevent these thefts from occurring consider the following:

- Use an ATV locking device.
- Keep your vehicle stored away and out of sight.
- Install a security system.
- Install a tracking device on your vehicle.

Anyone who may have information that may assist with these investigations are asked to contact the Haliburton Highlands OPP at 705-286-1431 or toll-free at 1-888-310-1122. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Kawartha Haliburton Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at <https://www.khcrimestoppers.com>.

Submitted

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS

IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills has received applications to consider by-laws to stop up, close, and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

- **File No. PLSRA2021047:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Little Boshkung Lake, lying in front 1035 Sage Drive located within Lot 12, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden
- **File No. PLSRA2022063:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Canning Lake, lying in front of 1126 Duggan Road located within Lot 17, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Minden
- **File No. PLSRA2023012:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1032 Pacific Road located within Lot 22, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- **File No. PLSRA2023013:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1031 Hoffman Road located within Lot 22, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- **File No. PLSRA2023017:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1053 Buds Lane located within Lot 21, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- **File No. PLSRA2023005:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Moore Lake, lying in front of 1244 Wessell Road located within Lot 22, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- **File No. PLSRA2020052:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1036 Beverley Lane located within Lot 24, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Lutterworth

The above noted applications are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned.

AND TAKE NOTICE should you wish to provide comments with respect to any of the above referenced applications, please submit in writing those comments to the undersigned not later than October 19, 2023.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE if deemed advisable, By-laws giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills. Please note that a Council meeting to consider a By-law for the above referenced applications will be scheduled at a later date following the requisite commenting period.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
Manager of Planning, Township of Minden Hills
705-286-1260 Ext. 506
adougherty@mindenhills.ca



WINTER GUIDE
IS COMING SOON!

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**The guide will include events that take place
in December 2023, and January,
February, March, April 2024.**

**Listing Deadline is
October 6, 2023**





Falling for Autumn

The Irondale Harvest Festival celebrated the season on Saturday, Sept. 23 with vendors, live music, contests, and a barbecue. /TIM YANO Special to the Times



A clarinet player filled the heritage property with music on Saturday.

The *Times*

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Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at the age of 80.

Beloved wife of Hugh Taylor of Minden. Loving mother of Kent (Tina) Taylor of Minden, Hiedi (Cory) Adams of Lindsay. Loving gramma of Brendan, Matthew, Natalie, Margaret and great gramma of Hunter and Kaleb. Dear sister of Alice (the late Gordie), Joyce (Junior), Marilyn, predeceased by Greta and Ivan, Archie and Shirley, Wilda and Bruce, Valerie and Sam, Annie and Sonny, and Margaret. Survived by her brother-in-law William and by her sisters-in-law Ruth (Bruce), Winn (the late Jack). Lovingly remembered by her many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427 Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 from 11:00 am until the time of the Funeral Service to celebrate Edna's life at 1:00 pm. Interment to follow at the Minden Cemetery. Reception will be held back at the Funeral Home in the Monk-Cray Family Centre.

Memorial Donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation - Palliative Care (HHHSF -Palliative Care) would be appreciated by the family.



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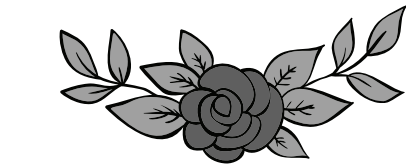
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VOLUME II No. 52

Wednesday, October 22, 1980

Police watch local banks

Police forces throughout Haliburton and Muskoka were placed on alert Monday in anticipation of a possible bank robbery.

Residents of Minden, Haliburton Village, Dorset and Wilberforce in this county were well aware of increased police activity in the core areas. Police cruisers could be seen at regular intervals passing in front of the local banking establishments while other officers were in evidence walking along the main street.

A similar "high profile" police presence was maintained in communities in Muskoka.

Staff in all local bank branches were informed of the situation and extra precautions were in force in all locations.

According to the police spokesman, the information that a bank robbery may be attempted in the Muskoka - Haliburton area became known some time ago in Huntsville. The spokesman was unable to elaborate on how authorities became aware of the information or the identity of the supposed bank robbers.

In any event, if a group had been planning to hold up a local bank, the show of police force Monday must have been enough to put an end to any such undertaking. Tuesday, a police spokesman reported that nothing illegal had been attempted at any of the area banks.

Council awaits shore policy

While at least one township in Haliburton County has decided to go ahead with the closing and sale of shore allowance to abutting land owners, most municipalities are waiting for comments on the policy from the Ontario Ministry of Housing. The wait is making some Reeves impatient, but apparently that ministry guideline should be released shortly.

The matter of the sale of shoreline allowance was raised at the October 15 meeting of County Council. A number of letters from various provincial agencies were read reviewing policies which had already been made public and advising that the housing ministry comments would soon be forthcoming.

At least one letter, that from the Minister of Housing, Claude Bennett, amended an earlier letter he had sent to the council. Bennett pointed out in this latest letter that revenue obtained by municipalities from the sale of shore allowance would have to be used for the acquisition, development or improvement of park land. The minister pointed out that this restriction on the use of the funds was spelled out in the Ontario Municipal Act.

A previous letter from the minister had indicated that the funds were to be used, in the general account of the county, for road rights of way or park land.

Minden Reeve Sinc Nesbitt expressed concern that the province was taking so long to announce its policy with regard to the closing of shore allowances. He said that inquiries to his office are "piling up" and he felt the municipalities shouldn't have to keep passing the blame onto the Ministry of Housing

for the lack of action. "We've got to get moving soon," Nesbitt commented.

Dysart Reeve Murray Fearry stated the Ministry of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs is reviewing the portion of the Municipal Act with regard to shore allowances. He said they are attempting to simplify the process and suggested the members of the council should wait until the province has had an opportunity to explain its position. He said a statement is expected from the government in November.

Deputy Reeve of Lutterworth Township, Glynn Lewis told the meeting that his township is proceeding with applications received although it is being pointed out to the applicants that the final policy from the province has yet to be received.



Federal, provincial, county and municipal representatives shared the honours Tuesday as the ribbon was cut marking the official opening of the new senior citizens apartment complex in Minden. Ontario Treasurer Frank Miller, third from right, led the scissor brigade. Others helping with the opening of the 20 unit building included John Eakins MPP, Haliburton Warden Malcolm McGillivray, a representative of the tenants, Minden Reeve Sinc Nesbitt, Ontario Housing representative and Bill Scott, M.P.

Ratepayers' group formed -taxes will be first target

A Minden ratepayers association has been formed and appears ready to go to bat to prove that taxpayers in this municipality have been contributing to county coffers over and above the amount they should be paying.

The group was officially formed Thursday evening at a meeting held in the township offices. About 23 individuals were on hand for the meeting, down from the 36 who attended the first meeting several weeks ago.

The organizer of the group, J.O. Jackson, commented that as the meeting opened, that he was disappointed to see fewer people attending. The organizer speculated that

one reason more individuals had not shown up was because they were not aware of the inequities that existed in the present tax system. "I hope we can get the message across to them," he said.

Jackson said, "People are willing to complain on the street corner, but many of them are not prepared to become involved. If this organization is to function, people must be keenly involved," Jackson told the audience.

According to Jackson, Minden taxpayers are being taxed at a rate equal to what residents of Lindsay, Peterborough and Oshawa are paying. He claimed that in

some municipalities, assessment of property has lagged far behind that in other townships. He said this means those townships which have undergone reassessments recently are carrying a greater burden of the tax load.

Noting that a new system of assessment, referred to as "market value assessment" is expected to come into force in the next year, Jackson said if the reassessment is carried out properly it will mean a readjustment of taxes paid by all county residents.

The group's attack on taxes in Anson, Hindon and Minden Township is based on two areas of complaint. The first is that other townships in

the county have not kept pace with the reassessment of property. "Assessment has not changed in some townships for 25 years," Jackson told the meeting.

Jackson said that the uneven assessment throughout the county was due to provincial assessors not carrying out their jobs correctly. He claimed, for example that some assessment in Lutterworth Township had not been updated since 1961.

Jackson told the meeting that for the group to become effective it must represent citizens from all parts of the

(more on page 8)

The race is on

Only three townships in Haliburton County will see races for the positions of reeve and deputy reeve in the coming municipal election. This fact was revealed after candidates for the November 10 vote filed their nomination papers in municipal offices around the county.

The races for reeve will be taking place in Anson, Hindon and Minden, Lutterworth, and Snowdon Townships. The Deputy Reeve's chair is to be contested in Snowdon, Glamorgan and Cardiff Townships.

In one municipality, Sherborne, McIntock and Livingstone, there will be no election this year as all seats

on the local council have been filled by acclamation. It appeared for a while that there would be a contest for the reeve's chair as Marlene Shortreed had filed her papers in opposition to the incumbent Reeve Fred Baum. Shortreed however withdrew her nomination bid by 5 p.m. Tuesday leaving Baum to be acclaimed to the office.

There appeared to be a contest for councillor in Sherborne, McIntock and Livingstone Monday evening as four names had been filed for the three available spots. However Dalton MacDonald had also filed papers for the position of Deputy Reeve. Since no other candidate had

sought that office he withdrew from the council race leaving the three candidates to win by acclamation and he took the deputy's chair in the same manner.

Also in that municipality, no one has stepped forward to contest the seat on the Board of Education. According to the clerk of the municipality, nominations for that position have been extended until 5 p.m. today (October 22).

The only other council seat for which there will be no election occurred in Ward Three of Dysart et al. Sid Cooper stood unopposed at the close of nominations in that section of the township and was acclaimed to office.

Elections will be held in the other two wards in that township.

Elections will be held in only two municipalities to decide seats on the county Board of Education. In all other townships except Dysart et al and Monmouth the positions have been filled by acclamation.

The following is a county-wide round-up of who is in the running for the November 10 vote. The two northern municipalities of Victoria County have been included in this tally. In all townships one reeve and one deputy reeve are to be elected with three members to be chosen for council seats. The number of

trustees to serve on the board of education is listed after that heading. Offices that have been filled by acclamation are in bold face type.

Anson, Hindon and Minden
Reeve: Sinc Nesbitt (incumbent); Lloyd Walker.

Deputy Reeve: Doug Pritchard, the incumbent by acclamation.

Councillor: Larry Cummins; S. Dean Elliott; Leroy Lichty; Lyle McKnight (incumbent); and Edward Pergolas.

Trustees (2): Don Booth and H. Lloyd Johnson, both

(more on page 5)

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